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# The Hongkong Telegraph

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FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1917.

## TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

### THE BOGUS SOCIALIST CONFERENCE.

Pro German Agitators Exposed.

London, May 10.

Mr. Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labour, has telegraphed to Mr. Wardle, Labour M.P. for Stockport, asking him to impress upon European neutral Labour organisations that the pretended Socialist Conference at Stockholm does not represent the working classes of America, Britain, France or Belgium, but that it is called by pro-German agitators for the purpose of effecting a Kaiser-dictated peace, or for deceiving Russian Socialists into betraying the Western democracies into consenting to a separate peace.

More Suspicions.

London, May 10.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Stockholm, the Socialist leader Herr Branting declares that the message of Herr Borgbärg's irresponsible offer of peace, made in Petrograd, increases the suspicion that an international organisation is serving the interests of Germany alone.

Russian Socialists Perceive the Danger.

London, May 10.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd, a conference of Socialists and extremists discussed Herr Borgbärg's invitation to attend the Stockholm Conference. It resolved that as Herr Borgbärg is acting in agreement with Herr Scheidemann and other German Socialists who side with the German Government, therefore he is an agent of the German Imperialists, and consequently they cannot participate in a congress attended by Herr Borgbärg and Herr Scheidemann.

British Labourites Hold Aloof.

London, May 10.

The Executive of the Labour Party, at a meeting held in the House of Commons, refused to associate in any way with the Socialist Conference at Stockholm. It declared that the calling of the Conference by Dutch Socialists was irregular.

The Executive is confident that Russia will know how to defend her liberty against a foreign enemy.

The meeting decided to arrange for a Conference of Allied Labourites and Socialists in London during June.

### UNREST IN RUSSIA.

A Threat of Anarchy.

London, May 10.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd, the Provisional Government, in a Proclamation, says it cannot conceal the fact that the difficulties it has been encountering lately have increased to such an extent as to occasion fears for the future. Isolated groups among certain classes, lacking conscientiousness, and seeking violently to realise their aspirations, threaten anarchy. This state of things is hampering the Administration and may lead to internal disorganisation and defeat at the Front. The phantom of anarchy and civil war, threatening liberty, arises.

The PCCG's slogan appeals to all to strive to safeguard liberty, and concludes by inviting the representative and creative forces of the country, which have hitherto not participated in the Administration, to join the Government.

A General Murdered.

London, May 10.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd states that General Kartoff, Commanding the Siberian Division, was killed while walking near the railway station at Riga. His assassin disappeared.

Soldiers' Increased Pay.

London, May 10.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd states that the increase in soldiers' pay involves 42,000,000 roubles monthly.

A District Committee's Action.

London, May 10.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says the Schleswig-Holstein District Committee have declared themselves an autonomous unit and have formed various sub-committees and resolved immediately to requisition all private property and livestock. They have arrested the President of the Zemstvo for the district.

### THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

London, May 10.

A wireless Russian official message says:—There was intense enemy artillery fire on Lake Miadzol and Smorgon. The enemy attacked in the wooded Carpathians to the west of the Kipul Mountain. Our machine-guns compelled him to retreat.

### CONCERNING REQUISITIONED SHIPS.

London, May 10.

The King's Bench has decided that the owner of a lost requisitioned ship is not entitled to recover interest on the value of the vessel at the moment of the loss, for the period between the date of the loss and the date when the compensation was paid.

### THE NEW SOUTH WALES LOAN.

London, May 10.

There is some criticism of the fact that the New South Wales £1,000,000,000 of three millions sterling 5½ per cent. bonds, at 93, is being re-written in London. It is pointed out that the terms spoil the chances of Imperial securities.

## TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

### RECENT NAVAL ACTION.

Several Honours Conferred.

London, May 10.

The Honours List issued for the Services naval action, described on April 25, confers the Distinguished Service Order and promotions to Captains on Commanders Pack and Evans.

Awards of the Distinguished Cross have been made to nine officers of the Swift and the Broke, including Midshipman Glynn, the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal to Lieutenant Bowles; the Distinguished Service Medal to 24 men of the lower deck, including Stoker Charles Williams, New Zealand Naval Reserve. There have been mentioned in despatches 34 officers and men, while two Engineer Lieutenant-Commanders have been promoted Commander. Four officers are noted for early promotion.

### THE WESTERN STRUGGLE.

Severe and Continuous Fighting.

London, May 10.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communiqué says:—The fighting yesterday at Baillecourt was severe and continuous. We progressed, despite the enemy's repeated costly and fruitless efforts to shake our hold on his positions.

We advanced our line at night by local fighting to the east of Gricourt and to the south of the Sambre River. At the latter place we captured a portion of the German front support lines.

We drove off night raids to the south-east of Lievin and to the south of Hullach.

We successfully raided to the north of Givenchy la Basse.

### Weak Enemy Efforts.

London, May 10.

A French communiqué says:—The enemy, at night attempted rather weak infantry attacks at various points at Chemin-des-Dames, all of which broke down under our fire. A strong counter-attack against the positions won in the region of Chéraux met with the same fate and did not prevent us from re-progressing and carrying a fortified point d'appui, taking prisoners and a machine gun.

A minor operation enabled us to extend our gains on the northern slopes of the Vauclerc plateau, where we took prisoners belonging to a fresh division which had recently arrived at this part of the front.

The artillery duel continued to be fairly lively in all these sectors.

It transpires that five German aeroplanes previously reported to be seriously damaged were brought down. Two others were brought down yesterday, one of them being on fire.

### The Capture of Fresnoy.

London, May 10.

The German attacks on Fresnoy are significant of its importance to the enemy, judging from the attacks on the Oppy line and the obstinate determination with which they are fighting for its possession. They have subjected every part of the British new positions on both sides of the Scarpe to severe tests, but they have been temporarily successful only at Fresnoy, which is a sharp salient beyond the British line of advance. Moreover, it is badly adapted for defence, as it lies in a hollow, with rising ground on three sides, which height is again dominated by others whence the enemy has directed a concentric fire on Fresnoy.

Notwithstanding these advantages, the German attacks, which have been conducted by three Divisions, including Guards and Bavarians, were at first repulsed, and, secondly, failed on the plateau between Fresnoy and Oppy.

The Times correspondent at Headquarters estimates that the German losses in recapturing Fresnoy were greater than the whole British force defending.

### Fighting at Many Points.

London, May 10.

A German official wireless message states:—Artillery firing at Arras continues in increasing violence.

Fresnoy remains ours, despite repeated attacks.

Fighting has increased at points between Soissons and Rheims. We repulsed, after bitter hand-to-hand fighting, French attacks on Winterberg, St. Marie Farm, and Cormicy.

Fresnoy advances to the north-west of Proves.

We brought down ten enemy aeroplanes.

### BITTER BATTLES IN MACEDONIA.

London, May 10.

A German official wireless message says:—The battle is being continued with the greatest bitterness and violence in Macedonia.

Enemy attacks to the north-west of Monastir failed, and we repulsed Franco-Russian and Italian masses attacks on a sixteen kilometre front at the Cerca salient.

We heavily drove back the Serbians, who were attacking to the north of Vodena.

### KING CONGRATULATES GENERAL MAUDÉ.

London, May 10.

His Majesty the King, in a message to General Maude, says:—The series of successes you have achieved in defeating the Turkish forces brought against you since the capture of Bagdad, reflect the very highest credit on you and all ranks under your command.

Your progress is all the more appreciated by your fellow countrymen since they are conscious of the trying conditions under which your operations are carried on.

## TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

### ANGLO-FRENCH MISSION.

New York's Preparations for a hearty welcome.

London, May 10.

Reuter's correspondent at New York states that there have been great preparations for three days to welcome the Anglo-French mission.

The city is ablaze with British and French flags, and seats are selling at \$50 for a woman's demonstration in honour of M. Vivian and Marshal Joffre at the Opera house to-night.

There will be a great banquet on Friday, when the British members arrive.

[In the event of telegrams arriving too late for insertion on this page they will be found on an Extra].

### EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

### THE WESTERN FRONT STRUGGLE.

#### Attacks and Counter-Attacks.

London, May 9.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig says: We slightly advanced our positions last night to the north-east of Hargicourt. Our barrage and machine gun fire completely broke up an attack in the evening to the north-east of Gavrelle. Simultaneously, our artillery dispersed forces concentrating for an attack northward of Fresnoy. Our counter-attack at night improved our position to the west of Fresnoy, regaining a portion of the lost ground. We drove off a raid to the east of Armentières.

#### Enemy Advancing Party Caught.

London, May 9.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: During the fighting in the neighbourhood of Baillecourt a party of the enemy attempting to advance were caught by machine gun fire and had heavy casualties. There was considerable reciprocal artillery activity at intervals to the northwest of St. Quentin and in the neighbourhoods of Baillecourt, Wanquet and Arleux.

#### A German Claim.

London, May 9.

A wireless German official message says: British attacks near Fresnoy and Baillecourt failed.

#### French Secure Prisoners.

London, May 10.

A French communiqué states: South of the Oise we carried out destructive artillery firing against German batteries in Segolain forest. There was great artillery activity in Chemin-des-Dames. We repulsed several counter-attacks in the Chevreux region. Two hundred prisoners were taken in yesterday's action. A local operation resulted in our capturing a German trench and a hundred prisoners to the north-west of Reims.

#### THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

#### Mr. Bonar Law's Speech.

London, May 9.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law, referring to the Western front said that the rapidity of the attack had forestalled the enemy who had had to fight in the open with heavy losses before the trenches which he had not time to prepare. Since April 1 we had taken 20,000 prisoners, 257 guns, 227 trench mortars. While in the first twenty-four days of the Somme we advanced three and a half miles on a six-mile front we were now advancing two to five miles on a twenty-mile front. There were twice as many German divisions against us as at the Somme and half of them had to be withdrawn. Our casualties in the present offensive were 50 to 75 per cent less than on the Somme. Our success was largely due to our distinct artillery superiority and in connection with that he paid a warm tribute to the Flying Corps.

"If we wish to realise how much has been done on the western front let us picture our feelings if in the same period as the battle of Aisne we had lost 20,000 prisoners and the number of guns the Germans lost" (Cheers).

Explaining the apparent increase in the cost of the war, he said there was the sum of £30,000,000 during the period under review which could not be regarded as real expenditure. The expenses of the Dominions' Governments were paid here and reimbursed by the Dominions' Governments. In April we paid out but did not receive. There was therefore no reason to suppose that the Budget estimates of the expenditure for the year would not be approximately correct.

#### SERIOUS TONNAGE SITUATION.

London, May 9.

In the House of Commons Sir Leo Chiozza Money said the tonnage situation was exceedingly serious but was more hopeful than a few weeks ago. He was of opinion that we should overcome the problem if it were given proper attention.

#### POLITICAL SITUATION IN RUSSIA.

Petrograd, May 9.

The Government has issued a declaration in favour of a Coalition Ministry, which M. Kerensky communicated to the Duma and the Committee and Council of the Soldiers' and Workers' Delegates and the Socialists, inviting participation.

#### NO MORE EXPORT OF COTTON.

The Hague, May 9.

The Dutch Overseas Trust has been informed by Britain that no further export licences for cotton can be granted in view of the domestic requirements of Britain.

[Continued on page 3.]

### TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

### OBITUARY.

Baron Grimthorpe.

London, May 10.

The death is announced of Baron Grimthorpe, formerly Conservative M.P. for the Whitley Division of Yorkshire, and partner in Beckett and Co., bankers, of Leeds. The heir to the title is the Hon. Ralph William Ernest Beckett.



## GENERAL NEWS.

Chinese Lacquer Brings High Prices.  
New York, March 31.—Fine old Chinese lacquer brought the highest prices at the Frederick Moore sale at the Anderson Galleries to-day; two rare old Ming wardrobes, lacquered in black and gold with louts flowers and heavenly dogs going to Mr. W. W. Backner for \$500, G. or \$250 each. The same buyer paid \$200G. for a pair of Foo lions in hard stone, early Ching.

Excess Profits in Australia.  
The Commonwealth Government has decided not to exempt all mining companies from liability to the war-time profits tax, but only gold mines, on the ground that, unlike other commodities, the value of gold has not been enhanced as a result of the war. On the contrary, the purchasing power of gold has declined, while the cost of production has materially increased. With regard to other mining industries, the original proposals have been considerably modified, the examination of balance-sheets having shown that the tax would affect new companies and businesses to a much greater degree than the old-established concerns. The estimated yield of the tax has consequently been reduced from £1,000,000 to £800,000.—United Empire.

The Empire Resources Development Committee.  
The Empire Resources Development Committee, which owes its formation to Mr. H. Wilson-Fox, may confidently be expected to accomplish much valuable work. For the present, the Committee propose to act merely in an investigating capacity, with a view to advising the Imperial and Dominion Governments at a late date, regarding new sources of revenue available through the development of hitherto untouched assets of the Empire. The three chief channels of investigation with which the Committee are now occupied are land development, fisheries development, and the development of the tropical palm-oil products of the Empire. The Committee realise the difficulties to be encountered in the elaboration of their schemes, and recognise that the sanction and assistance of the Dominion Governments and the co-operation of vested interests will be necessary in connection with some of their proposals, and, meantime, they invite the fullest criticism of their propositions.

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

By direction of the Government of Hongkong Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,

ON

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the 13th day of August, 1917, at 3 p.m., at their Sales Room, Ice House Street, Victoria, Hongkong.

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Area in respect of Section A of Marine Lot No. 101 = 445 Sq. ft. Proportion of Annual Crown Rent \$8445.

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Solicitors for the Liquefactors of  
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Hongkong 15th September, 1915.

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Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

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The "Hongkong Telegraph" is now on sale at, and will be delivered to subscribers by, the Dairy Farm Company, Ltd., Shamian, Canton, who have been appointed our agents there.

By Order, "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

## The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1917.

### GERMANY AND THE WORLD MARKETS.

From the tone of recent telegrams to hand, it is transparently clear that a spirit very far removed from that overweening confidence which formerly characterised high officials in Germany has now seized hold of those in elevated positions in the Fatherland. The war has produced many changes of Ministers in Berlin, but nothing which has so far transpired has been more significant than the growing unpopularity of the Imperial Chancellor, Herr von Bethmann Hollweg. The rumour that he in turn, has to go, coupled with the irrepressible demands for sweeping Constitutional reform—even to the extent of curtailling the Kaiser's powers—all tend to show that Germany is in a far from happy temper these days. It must be galling enough for her statesmen and generals to realise that the Boches are being soundly trounced on the field of battle; that the nation's man-power is being literally wasted in an absolutely useless attempt to stay the onset of the Anglo-French armies; and that the great German Navy is still impotent. The hopelessness of the outlook becomes all the more accentuated when it is known that the tide of distrust is all the while steadily rising against the country's leaders at home.

Talk of a favourable peace appears to be the order of the day in Germany at the moment, and one point stands out very sharply in connection therewith—namely, the fear that, after the war, German manufacturers may find the bulk of the world's markets closed against them. *Vorwärts* recently warned the German workers that an Allied victory would probably mean the complete exclusion of the Central Powers from the wider outside market; a Dusseldorf organ candidly admitted that German influence in the Far East was irreversibly lost, and now we have the diplomat who is mentioned as the likely new Imperial Chancellor talking of peace terms which shall not necessarily include indemnities but which must provide for German trade on the pre-war basis in all overseas countries. These are most illuminating pointers as showing the extreme anxiety which is felt in Germany as to the future position of German trade in foreign lands. Whatever we may think about the matter, it is obvious that the opinion of the Press and of the biggest men in Germany is that an Allied victory will mean something much more than actual defeat on the field—in short, nothing less than such a degree of discrimination towards German goods as to make it scarcely distinguishable from actual exclusion from the hitherto most paying markets.

To those in Hongkong who argue that it would be absurd to think of confining German trade within the limits of the Fatherland for any appreciable period after the war, we would commend the above reflections. If we consider the nature of the Paris Economic Conference resolutions, it is palpably clear that the Allies do intend setting up obstacles in the way of German commercial progress after the war. Germany knows that fact as well as anybody, as the declarations which have been quoted show. Then why is it, when both the Allies and Germans see what the future has in store, that Britishers are to be found who argue that it would be wrong and vindictive for us to extend our punishment of the enemy to an effort in the direction of crippling his trade so far as we can? when the war is over? That, as we have before many times contended, must be the punishment to be meted out to the Hun, who has so recklessly and wantonly started a world-wide war of aggression, and who has so far shamed himself by his abominations. Germany is going to face the dangers which lies ahead. The Allies will see

Religion, Masonry and the War. Yesterday we printed from the Munich *Zeitung* a most amazing explanation of how the war came to be. This paper used to be known as a steady-going political organ, of frankly Catholic outlook, contributed to by a number of unquestionably cultivated men; but to day, like everything and everybody else within the German Empire, it appears to have taken leave of its senses. Its editor now asks—sounding at the mouth as he does so—"what means shall the Church use in order to compel the warlike raving madman, the Protestant George, the Radical and Socialist freethinkers of France, and the Italian foes of the Church, to make peace?" and further informs us that the war was engineered by the Freemasons. The writer certainly "struck a bad patch" when he introduced the subject of masonry, for in no country in the world, is that organisation in so corrupt a condition as in Germany. There, as in certain other Continental countries, the Mason is usually the type of man with whom the average British member of the craft would strongly object to have any dealings at all. Older readers may remember that, when Pope Leo XIII forbade Catholics to become Masons, he remarked that, had Continental Masonry been as clean as the British variety, he would have felt compelled to take a different view of the matter. If this hot-headed and hot-air-loving editor would pause for a moment and think, he might realise that, in the British army to day, Free-mason and Catholic, Jew and Hindu, Protestant and Mohammedan are fighting in a common cause—and that this could not be the case if there were any truth in his theory as to the origin of the war. Further, he might possibly arrive at the conclusion that the Church in Germany could be better occupied than in bolstering up the cause of a blasphemous monarch who has permitted his gallant troops to destroy churches, break into convents, murder priests, and commit other acts of sacrilege too horrible to be mentioned. Individual German Masons may have a big share in foisting this war on us, but, from the fact that a good many thousands of British and French Masons are giving their lives on the opposite side, we find it difficult to follow our learned friend's reasoning.

### That Socialist Conference.

It is clear from the latest wires on the subject that, even though for a moment some of the Russians may allow themselves to be fooled by the promoters of the so-called Socialist conference at Stockholm, the various Labour federations in the other Entente countries have no delusions whatever on the point. Mr. Gomperts, a well-known American Labour man, has said outright that the Conference "does not represent the working classes of America, Britain, France or Belgium," but has been called by pro-German agitators for the purpose of effecting a Kaiser-dictated peace." And this, undoubtedly, is the feeling among the people of the other Allied countries. The Socialist is invariably more gullible than the generality of men, but the Kaiser in sheep's clothing is too much even for him to swallow. The various workers' federations among the Allied peoples have now a very definite duty to perform—and particularly those of Britain and America, for it is to them that the Continentals most look for support. They have it in their power to open the eyes of the Russian workers by persistently declining to have part or lot in the Stockholm nonsense, and by steadily hammering into them the real aim of all this pro-Kaiser business. It is sorry Socialism that would leave unanswered the deliberate murders committed by the German Emperor and his gang of cut-throats and misandars, or that would make peace with a nation whose avowed object is to crush everything that savours of democracy. If, as we have said before, these German Socialists are genuine, why is not the first clause in their offer of peace an undertaking to hand over the Kaiser and his fellow blackguards to the Entente troops for summary judgment? Or is it that Socialism, like Hun, everything else, is entirely dependent upon the meaning?

### DAY BY DAY.

USE EVERY MAN AFTER HIS DESERT, AND WHO SHALL SCAPE WHIPPING?—Hamlet.

To-morrow's Anniversary. To-morrow is the 276th anniversary of the execution of the Earl of Strafford.

The Dollar. The opening rate of the dollar on demand today was 24.41/8d.

### Mails Lost.

Attention is drawn to the Post Office announcement on Page 10 regarding the presumed loss of mails via Siberia from Hongkong of March 13 and 15.

Lieut. C. Trenhard Davis. Claude Trenhard Davis, son of Mr. W. H. Trenhard Davis, of Shanghai, has passed out Sandhurst Military College and has been gazetted 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal West Kent.

### A Veteran Thief.

An aged employee of the Kowloon Dock was charged before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court this morning, with stealing a brass port-hole fitting from the Dock. He was discovered by a watchman trying to smuggle the fitting through the gate. Sentence of seven days' hard labour was imposed.

### At the Fountain.

Two men were charged before Mr. J. H. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, with fighting near the street fountain in Cachick Street. It appeared that there were a number of men waiting to get water, when a dispute arose and bamboo poles and iron nuts were freely used. Each of the fighters was fined 25c.

### Motor Mishap.

A Chinese married woman has been sent to the Government Civil Hospital suffering with injuries to her right foot, caused through being knocked down by motor car No. 73, owned by Ma Yuk-shan, of 145, Wanchai Road. It is stated by the driver that he blew the horn several times, but the woman walked straight into the car. Her injuries are not serious.

### U. S. Statistics.

The figures supplied us yesterday by the North-west Trading Company of Seattle and Hongkong should have read:—Population, 103,573,000, compared with 101,881,000 in 1916. Money in circulation on March 1, \$4,582 millions gold, compared with \$4,498 millions gold on February 1 and \$3,926 millions gold on March 1 last year.

### Why He Wanted the Clock.

When a Chinese, who said he was a thief, was charged with the theft of a clock, before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, at the Magistracy this morning, it was stated by Inspector Brown that the man coolly entered a house, took the clock off the wall, and, putting it into a sack, walked out. The defendant admitted that he wanted the clock to pawn it. His Worship passed sentence of 14 days' hard labour.

### Pocket-Cutting.

When alighting from a tramcar, a man felt someone pulling at his pocket, and, on looking round, found a compatriot cutting his pocket with a knife, obviously for purposes of stealing some money which was contained therein. The thief was promptly arrested, and, when charged before Mr. C. D. Melbourne at the Police Court this morning, he was sent to prison for six weeks with hard labour.

### Cheating Shopkeepers.

There were five dishonest Chinese shopkeepers summoned before Mr. C. D. Melbourne at the Police Court this morning for using weights and scales which operate against the purchaser. The first man was a medicine store dealer, and his scales were four per cent. out. A fine of \$10 was imposed. A confectionery dealer had scales also four per cent. wrong, and he was ordered to pay a like fine. The keeper of a grocery store was found to be using scales five per cent. against the purchaser, and his Worship inflicted a fine of \$15. Seven weights were produced as evidence against a Chinese grocer, the whole of these being faulty, for the use of which he was fined \$10. A small shopkeeper, who sells spice, had two pairs of scales on the wrong side, one being as much as two-and-a-half per cent. and the other two per cent. As the scales were faulty, he was fined \$10.

Eight teams entered for the League 1916/1917, but the Shropshire withdrew after their first match, in which they were defeated by the Dockyard R. Club. The final placings were:

### CORRESPONDENCE

[The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph."]

### BRIBERY.

[To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph."]

Sir.—Referring to your remarks yesterday as to the bribery existing not only in Hongkong but also among the Chinese Government officials, it may interest your readers to know that there is much talk among the Chinese community concerning the Chinese officials openly demanding bribes. It is said that they are now worse than those of the Manchu dynasty. An article on this subject appeared in the Chinese paper *Tsun Wan Yat Po* of yesterday's issue. The master seems to me a very interesting one. The article says that there are, in certain districts, brokers who arrange with the officials to appoint Sando-Soo as a magistrate for such and such a place by offering a certain sum; say \$10,000 or more. If such a district magistrate is not satisfied with the poet in question, he can offer a higher price for a better post. Again, if a proclamation is issued by the Kwangtung authorities against some person, such person can arrange with the officials to issue another proclamation in his favour, only paying the officials a certain sum.

I also hear from a leading merchant in this Colony that Hongkong Chinese may very easily fall into the trap of investing their money for so-called industrial purposes in Kwangtung, though such money would be invested there without any protection.

Not only that, but if these industrial companies are expected to be profitable, the officials will try by indirect means to form yet another Company for competition, and will issue another proclamation against the old one.

In conclusion, the article states,

that there is no trust, no law,

no reputation in China, and

that the main object is money.

If a man has money he can do

anything; black can be changed

into white, and a curse can be

made straight, so long as the

province of Kwangtung remains

a country without any

protection.

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province of Kwangtung remains

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Monday "THE MERRY WIDOW"  
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Tuesday The Latest Daly's Theatre Success.  
May 22nd. "THE HAPPY DAY."

Wednesday "THE BING BOYS ARE HERE."  
From the Alhambra Theatre.  
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Thursday "THE GIRL FROM CIROS."  
The Latest Garrick Success.  
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BOOKING now open at MOUTRIE'S.

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Hongkong, 11th May, 1917.

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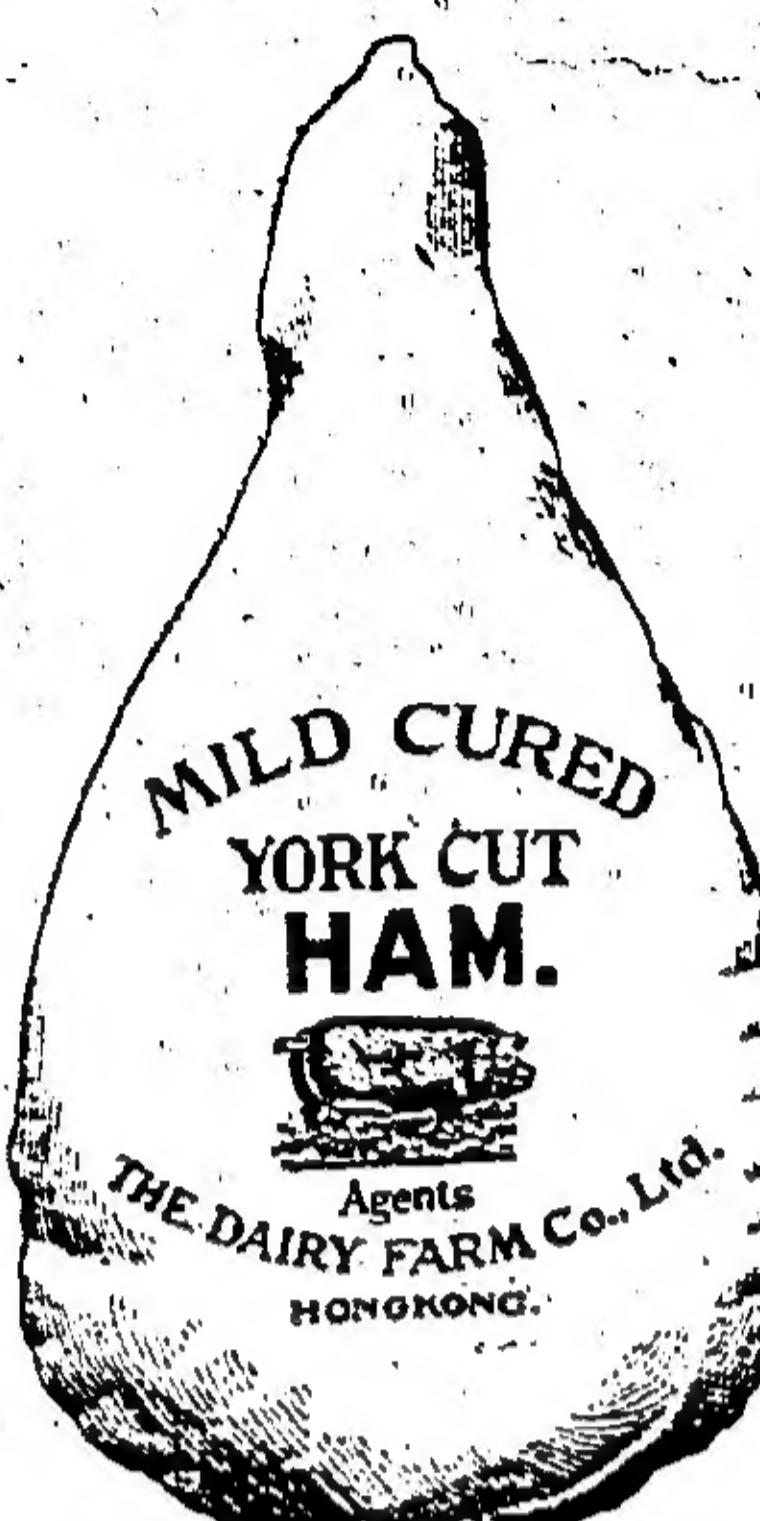
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E. V. D. Parr.  
Superintendent.

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| GUUTTA via S'pore, Lang & Rangoon, BOMBAY & S'pore, Malacca & C'bo...   | Tenshin Maru<br>Capt. Taniguchi                               | WEDNESDAY, 16th May.                              |
| MOJI and Kobe   | Kamo Maru<br>Capt. Inazumi                                    | THURS., 17th May, at 11 a.m.                      |
| SHANGHAI and Kobe   | Kashima Maru<br>Capt. Tozawa                                  | FRI, 25th May.                                    |
| SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama   | Taisho Maru<br>Capt. Ogawa                                    | SUNDAY, 21st June.                                |
| SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama   | Benten Maru<br>Capt. Tomita                                   | WEDNESDAY, 8th June.                              |
| NAGASAKI, Kobe and Yokohama   | Tango Maru<br>Capt. Soyeda                                    | FRI, 18th June.                                   |
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1st class to London G\$348. (27,110.0), return G\$64. (£123). to San Francisco G\$250.

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SHANGHAI Sunning 15th May at 4 p.m.

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Telephone No. 34, Hongkong May 10, 1917.

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

Telephones in Japan.

A Japanese writes in the "New York Evening Post": "The telephone and telegraph systems in Japan are not merely public utilities; they are Governmental necessities. With regard to the telephone system, because of its being under Government control, it differs much from the system in America: the installation of telephones is made only within the limits of the national budget, and the charges for service are based on an annual flat rate, irrespective of the number of calls made. The demand for telephone extensions has recently been growing so rapidly that without speedy installation great inconvenience is felt by the public."

It was because of this inconvenience that many appeals were addressed to the Government in 1916 by various Chambers of Commerce. To satisfy the demand the Government incorporated in the budget for 1917-18 a substantial increase for telephone rates. This, however, has not been approved by the Diet, owing to the fact that last January the Diet was dissolved. According to representations made in May by the Osaka Chamber of Commerce, there were 134,300 applications for telephone installation at the end of 1914 still to be attended to.

The practice of leaving unattended to so many applications for telephones for years is a phenomenon peculiar to Japan. It forces people who must have a telephone installed at once to buy from others their telephone rights, for which they are forced to pay large amounts of money. Such transactions usually take place through brokers, who nowadays do a very flourishing business in this particular line. The delay in making installations is not due to the unremunerative nature of the telephone enterprise. During the first period, which extended from 1891 to 1903, this enterprise yielded a profit of six per cent. per annum, on an average, on the total capital invested. During the second period—1907 to 1911—the profit increased to eighteen per cent.; in 1914 the total receipts amounted to 15,900,000 yen, and expenditures to 6,210,000 yen, leaving a net profit of 9,690,000 yen, nearly twenty per cent. of the amount invested. The total receipts of 1916 are estimated at 20,000,000 yen. In view of the urgent necessity for telephone extension and the profitable nature of the work, the public has begun to demand that the telephone account be separated from the general account and made independent so that the profits accruing from telephone lines may be devoted to the extension of telephone communication. Also the past year found the Department of Communications considering plans for changing the present system of telephone charges. According to the Department's report, each telephone in Tokio makes on an average twenty-two calls per day—an average much higher than that of American and European cities—which is even in New York the average is only ten per day. Some telephone lines in Tokyo make one hundred and even two hundred calls per day. The authorities believe that the public often make unnecessary calls because charges are based on number of calls. Unnecessary calls prevent quick communication and cause inconvenience to those who have important messages to communicate.

The Taiwan Bank

On April 7 the new premises of the Kukiang branch of the Taiwan Bank were opened. The new building has been erected at a cost of something like £50,000. About 250 Chinese, Japanese, and European, attended the opening ceremony. Among the Japanese guests were Mr. K. S. Li, Consul, Mr. Kusaki, former manager, now manager of the Hankow branch of the Taiwan Bank; and Mr. K. N. K. engineer of the Nanchang-Kukiang Railway. The Chinese guests comprised General Wu, the Defence Comptroller; the Chief of Police; the Director of the N. K. Railway; President and vice-President of the Kukiang Chamber of Commerce; the Managers of the Bank of China and the Bank of Communications, and many bankers and local merchants.

The Chinese people, too, were well represented. Mr. Uku, the manager, made a speech in which he thanked the patrons of the bank for past help, and assured them of his desire to assist in the well-being of the port. Mr. Kusaki also spoke. After lunch, which was served in Japanese style, there was a display of Japanese dancing.

Exchange.

# THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY.

Owners of The "SHIRE" Line of Steamers.

FOR MAILINGS TO AND FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM AND INTERMEDIATE PORTS.

## STOP PRESS TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

## A NAVAL ACTION.

## ELEVEN GERMAN DESTROYERS ENGAGED.

## ENEMY VESSELS TURN TAIL.

London, May 10.  
The Admiralty announces:—A scouting force of light cruisers and destroyers from Harwich, under Commodore Tyrwhitt, while cruising in the morning between the Anglo-Dutch coasts, sighted eleven German destroyers. We immediately closed and opened fire.

The enemy immediately turned off at full speed to the south, under the cover of a dense smoke screen.

The chase continued for eighteen minutes.

We engaged the enemy at long range, but was unable to overtake him.

Four destroyers chased the Germans until within range of the Zeebrugge batteries. The enemy were hit.

Our casualties are one wounded.

## AN IRISH BY-ELECTION.

Imprisoned Sinn Feiner Returned.

London, May 10.  
The South Longford by-election has resulted as follows:—  
Mr. McGuinness (Sinn Feiner) ... 1,498.  
Mr. McKeane (Nationalist) ... 1,461.  
Mr. McGuinness is in prison as a rebel.

## PLOT TO ASSASSINATE M. VENIZELOS.

London, May 10.  
An official Venizelist telegram states that a conspiracy to assassinate M. Venizelos was discovered at Salonica.

Nine arrested men have confessed to acting under instructions of a secret committee of military officers and politicians at Aheas.

Enquiry is being made into the matter.

## AMERICA'S GENEROUS ACT.

London, May 10.  
Reuter's correspondent at Washington states that the United States has taken over the entire cost of Belgian relief-supplies, thus relieving France and Great Britain who, hitherto, have borne ninety per cent. thereof.

## THE USE OF SHIPPING TONNAGE.

London, May 10.  
In the House of Commons, Sir Leo Chiozza Money stated that the Food Controller, the War Office, the Admiralty, and the Ministry of Munitions were using 93 per cent. of available tonnage.

## THE SALONICA EXPEDITION.

British Policy May be Announced.

London, May 10.  
In the House of Commons, Lord Robert Cecil promised to consider the suggestion that the Government should publicly state its policy in respect to Greece and the Salonica expedition.

Mr. Lynch:—Is not the protection given to King Constantine partly due to his Royal relation?

Lord Robert Cecil replied that the implication was absolutely untrue and very cowardly.—(Loud Cheers).

After questions, the Secret Session commenced.

## THE COLONIES AND THE THRONE.

London, May 10.  
Lord Derby, speaking at South Kensington, said it would be under-estimating the number to say that we had 11 Allies, because we could no longer look upon the Commonwealth of Australia and the other Dominions as simply dependents of Great Britain. They were the firmest Allies any country could have. What kept them together? Not Downing Street nor politicians, for politicians come and go. What did keep them together was the Monarchy and His Majesty the King, to whom this country and our great dependencies looked, and rightly looked, as the proper head of a great country.

## SHANGHAI SHARE REPORT.

## ANOTHER GERMAN LIE.

Reported Sale of Macao to Japan.  
The Daily Telegraph of March 29 publishes the following telegram:

Paris, March 27.—A telegram from Zurich states that the *Koellnische Zeitung* announces that Portugal has sold Macao to Japan.—Central News.

Commenting on the message, the Daily Telegraph says:—"There is no confirmation of this report, which, coming as it does from a German source, must be regarded with suspicion until it is officially corroborated by the Powers concerned."

Cotton Mills.—The sudden rise in the price of the raw article now forbids the manufacture of yarn at a profit, but this will surely right itself before long, and in the meantime it is worthy of note that the mills generally have been doing much better during the past three months than for the corresponding period last year.

Barbers.—This market as a rule is exceedingly quiet, and business becomes increasingly more difficult. Tengong.—The Directors advertise the meeting for 4th proximo, when a final dividend of £160 will be recommended.

Marine Insurance.—North China came to market at 145 guineas, and 140/- ex-dividend. Underwriters are a little easier and sold at \$857.00.

Mining, Chinese Engineering;—There are buyers of these at £10.00, but China has parted with most of her holdings, and high risk insurance forbids purchases from London.

Docks and Engineering.—Shanghai sold and are wanted at 90, and Engineers are in request at 12.

## TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

(Continued from Page 1.)

## MACEDONIAN FIGHTING.

London, May 8.  
A French Macedonian communiqué says: The artillery was active on the whole front. British aeroplanes successfully bombed enemy depots at Dedi and Paljorac.

Contrary to the allegations made in the German communiqué of May 8 there was no attack on the Cerna salient.

## THE PRICE OF TEA.

London, May 8.  
The Board of Trade has fixed the statutory percentage under the excess profits duty at 5 and 9 for tea companies and firms respectively in the Dutch East Indies, and 10 to 11 for cocoanut companies and firms in the Middle East.

Following a warning that unless tea prices were lowered the Government would act drastically, the prices in London on the sales of Indian tea yesterday fell generally three pence a pound. In some cases where the fall was five pence, the tea was withdrawn. This is regarded as confirming the view that, with caution on the part of dealers and blenders, there was no occasion for the recent record wholesale prices of £1. 9d. and £1. 10d. a pound compared with 8d. before the war.

## FIXING FLOUR PRICES.

London, May 8.  
The Press Bureau announces that Lord Devonport has fixed the maximum retail price of maize-flour and maize-meal at 4d. a pound, oatmeal, rolled oats and flaked oats at 5d.

## ITALIAN SHIPPING FIGURES.

London, May 8.  
An Italian official message states that for the week ended May 6 the vessels that arrived numbered 484; departures 430. Seven steamers and eight sailing vessels were sunk, while one steamer and two sailing vessels were unsuccessfully attacked.

## SILVER MARKET QUIET.

London, May 10.  
Silver is featureless and quiet.

## VOLUNTEER ORDERS.

## LAWN BOWLS.

## INTERESTING CIVIL SERVICE MATCH.

Corps Orders issued to-day by Lieutenant-Colonel A. Chapman, V.D., state:

Joined.  
Spr. G. W. Milne having joined, is allotted Corps No. 2098 and posted to Engineer Company.

## Leave.

No. 1780 Spr. L. S. Straube is granted 8 months' extension of leave from 15. 5. 17.

No. 1813 Loo. Corp. J. MacDonald is granted 6 months' leave from 11. 5. 17.

No. 2022 Gr. A. E. Golding is granted 12 months' leave from 31. 5. 17.

## Dress:

All white metal badges and buttons (except buttons seen on serge jackets) in possession of members of the Corps are to be exchanged for brass badges buttons at Headquarters on the following date:—May 14th Artillery Battery. May 15th Belchers 6 Section. May 16th Engineer Company. May 17th Engineer Company. May 18th Engineer Company. May 21st Right, Centre and Left Sections M.G. Co. May 22nd Scouts Company. May 23rd Civil Service Coy. Stretcher Bearer Section and Signalling Section.

Arms, Ammunition and Equipment.

C.S.M.s are required to furnish to Headquarters list showing No. of rifle, No. of bayonet, description of equipment (brown leather or buff) and number of rounds of ammunition in possession of each member of their unit, not later than Friday, 25th instant.

CHUNG LING-SOO.  
Last night the Theatre Royal was crowded with Chinese, when the talented Chung Ling-Soo Company gave a special performance on behalf of the Kwong Wah Hospital. The variety entertainment was a great success and was followed with the keenest interest even by those who did not speak English; while Chung Ling-Soo's wonderful feats drew loud exclamations of wonder and prolonged applause. To-night a performance is being given on behalf of the Services Entertainment Fund.

and proceed by car to Polo Ground. Senior Officers need not attend. Helmets to be worn at this and similar parades until further orders; 5.30 p.m. Signalling Section "B" class at R.A. Theatre.

TUESDAY 15TH INSTANT.—7.30 a.m. Belchers 6" Section at Belchers Battery; 5.15 p.m. Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables; 5.15 p.m. Stretcher Bearer Section at Headquarters, Officers W.O.s and N.C.O.s of Right, Centre and Left Sections M.G. Co. Scouts Company and Civil Service Company at Headquarters for lecture by Adjutant. A note book and pencil to be brought by everyone attending. Mutt may be worn; 5.30 p.m. Artillery Battery at Belchers Battery; 5.45 p.m. Signalling Section "A" class at Happy Valley.

Wednesday 16th instant.—5.10 p.m. Adjutant's Parade for Left, Centre, Right Sections M.G. Co. Scouts Company and Civil Service Company.

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## TINPLATE AND STEEL-PLATE INDUSTRY.

## A BIG RISE IN THE HONGKONG MARKET.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph."]

## WAR ECONOMIES.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph."

Sir,—At the annual meeting of St. John's Cathedral subscribers and shareholders, held in January last, the following resolution was adopted:—"That the Church Body is requested to consider whether it is necessary to take any steps towards the promotion of greater self-sacrifice among the British residents of Hongkong at this critical period of our national history and, if so, to recommend what steps should be taken."

The Cathedral Body discussed the subject and came to the conclusion that the matter was of sufficient importance to deserve consideration. It was in due course agreed that before taking any further or public steps it would be both desirable and courteous to obtain the views of representatives of the British Club in the Colony on the subject. A letter was accordingly sent to each Club, requesting that representatives be sent to consider jointly certain proposals relative to "War Economies". The request was acceded to, and a meeting was lately held at which representatives of the Clubs and the lay members of the Cathedral Body were present.

The principal railway companies notified the Department of Commerce that embargoes placed on steel plate and black tin have been removed, and everything possible is being done to expedite their shipment.

A committee of six Government officials and representatives of plate and canning interests has undertaken to make an inventory of the canneries' requirements, and the latest advices by cable from New York are to the effect that this committee's recommendation is that the export of tinplate, other than to Great Britain and her Allies in Europe, should be prohibited until local requirements are satisfied.

By local requirements is meant not only domestic consumption in America, but the enormous amount required by canning interests for canned foods for the Allies.

It is intended, of course, that the ordinary over-sea trade shall be disturbed as little as possible, but, quite rightly, war requirements exports must take precedence over ordinary commercial business.

There is no tinplate in first hands in the United States, nor has there been for some months past, as the mills were, even previous to the American intervention in the war, fully booked up to the first quarter of 1918, and are much behind in their contract deliveries. The result has been—since America is practically the only country manufacturing tinplate for export—a considerable rise in price in the not unimportant market of Hongkong (which always must, during the war, respond to American market prices) has taken place. For the last eighteen months, with occasional stagnation, the price has advanced from say £15.75 per cwt up to the present unheard-of price of say £24.25 c.wt. Hongkong July/August shipment from the Pacific Coast.

In view of the report of the committee, if carried into effect, the price must still further advance in this market, in spite of the fair amount of tinplate booked for forward delivery.

We do not see any relief from the present condition, i.e., a further rise in price, for the mills are booked so far beyond their capacity, even the ending of the war would not exert any early favourable effect on the price of this, to Hongkong, important commodity.

The main features of the steel-plate market are analogous to those of the tinplate trade, although our advice are that no embargo on the export of steel-plate is at present contemplated, but it is impossible to say that the Government may not find it necessary to adopt a gradual and partial export-prohibition of this commodity also. Their action will necessarily largely depend upon the results of the atrocious German submarine campaign.

In any case, both as regards tinplate and steel-plate, existing private contracts will not be interfered with unless, which is improbable, a sudden emergency arises.

## VOLUNTEER RESERVE ORDERS.

Order No. 29, issued to-day by Major Wakeman, Commanding H. K. V. R., states:

## Detail.

On duty from the morning of Sunday, the 13th May, to the morning of Sunday, the 20th May, H. K. V. R.

Next for duty, "B" Coy. H. K. V. R. Orderly Officer, Lieut. B. R. Brach.

## Parades.

Monday, 14th instant—Signalling Section: "A" and "B" Classes at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue. Machine Gun Section at Wellington Barracks at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue. R-cruits on the Cricket Ground at 5.15 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Oxberry. Dress: Drill Order.

Tuesday, 15th instant—Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Drill Order. "A" and "B" Cos. on the road outside the Orderly Room at 5.15 p.m. Kowloon and Taikoo Sections on the Polo Ground at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Drill Order.

Wednesday, 16th instant—Recruits on the Cricket Ground at 5.15 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Oxberry. Dress: Drill Order.

Thursday, 17th instant—Signalling Section: "A" and "B" Classes at Volunteer Headquarters at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue. Machine Gun Section at Wellington Barracks at 5.15 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue. Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Drill Order.

Friday, 18th instant—"A" and "B" Cos. and recruits on the road outside the Orderly Room at 5.15 p.m. Kowloon and Taikoo Sections on the Polo Ground at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Drill Order.

Saturday, 19th instant, nil.

## Transfer.

No. 633 Pte. H. A. Baxter is transferred to Signalling Section.

## Promotions.

No. 40 Coy. Q.M.S. J. C. Mackay is promoted Regimental Quarter-master-Sergeant with effect from 21st April.

No. 4 Sergt. W. H. Woolley is promoted Company Quarter-master Sergeant with effect from 21st April.

## Notices.

Reference Corps Order No. 25, topes will be worn by guards whenever mounted, until further orders.

Reference Corps Order No. 22, any member, including D. Coy., who has not returned his rifle and bayonet to Volunteer Headquarters for examination must do so before Saturday, 12th inst.

HER EYES AND COMPLEXION.

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Single Fare by Day Steamer ..... 6.00  
Return Fare by Day Steamer ..... 11.00

HONGKONG TO CANTON. | CANTON TO HONGKONG.

FRIDAY, 11th MAY, 1917.  
10.00 p.m. Fatshan. | 4.30 p.m. Heungshan.

SATURDAY, 12th MAY, 1917.

8.00 a.m. Heungshan. | 8.00 a.m. Kinshan.  
10.00 p.m. Kinshan. | 4.00 p.m. Fatshan.

## HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. Taishan Tons 2,008. | S.S. Sui Tai Tons 1,651.

HONGKONG TO MACAO.

Week days at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf. Sundays, at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.

MACAO TO HONGKONG.

Week days at 7.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sundays at 7.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

## EXCURSION TO MACAO.

SUNDAY, 13th MAY, 1917.

The Company's Steamship

"TAISHAN".

Will depart from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf at 9 a.m. and return from Macao at 3 p.m.

N.B.—The Company will also run a steamer from Macao on Sunday at 7.30 a.m. and from Hongkong at 1 p.m. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.

The attention of the Public is drawn to special facilities afforded by the Police Department of the Macao Government. Passes are issued at the Police Station facing the Company's Wharf thus obviating delay and trouble in having to apply at this Head Police Station for permits.

Fares: Saloon, Single \$3, Return \$5.

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## NEW YORK, SAN FRANCISCO AND CANADA.

|                         |              |             |          |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------|
| San Francisco via Japan | Siberia M.   | T. K. K.    | 12, May  |
| San Francisco via Japan | Arakan       | J.C.J. L.   | 20, May  |
| San Francisco via Japan | Teny M.      | T. K. K.    | 23, May  |
| Victoria, B.C. & Japan  | Kamakwa M.   | N. Y. K.    | 8, June  |
| San Francisco via Japan | Tjasondi     | J.C.J. L.   | 11, June |
| San Francisco via Japan | Nippon M.    | T. K. K.    | 14, June |
| Victoria B.C. & Japan   | Shidzuoka M. | N. Y. K.    | 20, June |
| San Francisco via Japan | Poria M.     | C. M. S. S. | 23, June |
| San Francisco via Japan | Pictang      | T. K. K.    | 3, July  |
| San Francisco via Japan | Korea M.     | T. K. K.    | 14, July |
| China                   | P. M. S. S.  | 5, Sept.    |          |
| Auyo M.                 | T. K. K.     | 11, Sept.   |          |

## JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.

|                             |            |           |          |
|-----------------------------|------------|-----------|----------|
| Shanghai via Swatow         | Wosang     | J. M. Co. | 11, May  |
| Sandakan                    | Mausang    | J. M. Co. | 12, May  |
| Newchwang                   | Szechuen   | B. & S.   | 12, May  |
| Shanghai                    | Anhui      | B. & S.   | 13, May  |
| Kobe                        | Tjilatjap  | J.C.J. L. | 14, May  |
| Swatow, Amoy and Foochow    | Haibong    | D. L. Co. | 15, May  |
| Hankow                      | Linan      | B. & S.   | 15, May  |
| Moji and Kobe               | Tenshin M. | N. Y. K.  | 16, May  |
| Manila, Cebu and Iloilo     | Taming     | B. & S.   | 16, May  |
| Haiphong                    | Loksang    | J. M. Co. | 16, May  |
| Shanghai, and Kobe          | Kamo M.    | N. Y. K.  | 17, May  |
| Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama | Tango M.   | N. Y. K.  | 18, May  |
| Manila                      | Yuensang   | J. M. Co. | 19, May  |
| Shanghai, Kobe and Yokohama | Tsibso M.  | N. Y. K.  | 19, May  |
| Shanghai                    | Wingsang   | J. M. Co. | 20, May  |
| Shanghai, Kobe and Yokohama | Kashima M. | N. Y. K.  | 25, May  |
| Manila                      | Tsuisang   | J. M. Co. | 26, May  |
| Shanghai                    | Tijipanas  | J.C.J. L. | 28, May  |
| Shanghai, Kobe and Yokohama | Benten M.  | N. Y. K.  | 30, May  |
| Kobe                        | Tjilwong   | J.C.J. L. | 6, June  |
| Shanghai                    | Tjitaroem  | J.C.J. L. | 13, June |

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having arrived. Consignees of cargo by her are hereby notified to send in their Bills of Lading for counter-signature, and to take immediate delivery of cargo from alongside.

Cargo remaining undelivered on the 9th May, at 5 P.M., will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense, and delivery must then be taken from the Company's Godown.

Storage charges will be assessed on all cargo remaining undelivered on 14th May, at 5 P.M.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected.

No Claim will be recognised after the Goods have left the Steamer or Godown.

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JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

## GENERAL SHIPPING NEWS.

German Shipbuilding in 1916. The Hamburger Werft, in which Hamburg-American Line is the principal shareholder, recently held its first annual general meeting, with Herr Albert Ballin in the chair. The four months since the establishment of the company were occupied to a large extent in the construction of building slips and workshops, and in the acquisition of machinery and tools. Having regard to the difficulties arising from the state of war, we have reason to be satisfied with the progress that has been made, and it will be possible to proceed with the laying of the keel plate of our first ship in the early part of the current year. As the business year only extended over four months, and can be regarded only as the building year of the yard itself, it is not proposed to submit any profit and loss account. The Hamburger Werft intends to devote itself to the building of steamers of uniform-type in series, while the El-flether yard will construct ocean-going ships of small size. Another new yard for the production of merchant ships, the establishment of which was announced at the beginning of last month, is the Pommern Werft. This appears to be a parent company founded in Berlin with a capital of 12,000 marks, which it is proposed to invite the public to increase to the extent of 10,000,000 marks. The company has an option on a piece of land in the neighbourhood of Stettin on the Stettin-Swinemunde Ship-Canal, with a water front of 750 metres, and it proposes to engage in the series construction of cargo ships, the types immediately contemplated being 4,000, 7,000 and 10,000 tons. It may be mentioned that the establishment of the Pommern Werft has called forth a certain amount of criticism in the Press. The Berliner Tagblatt, for example, complains that the first action of the company, after it had received several preliminary puffs in the newspapers, was to exclude the Press from the meeting, at which it was decided to raise the capital to 10,000,000 marks. It is necessary, the journal points out, that before small capitalists lend their support to the concern they should be quite clear as to its actual position. All they have at present consists of vague promises and plans. Caution is all the more necessary, the Tagblatt declares, because reports have reached it to the effect that the property acquired or to be acquired by the company is not particularly suitable for the construction and working of a shipbuilding yard, and that there is not much prospect of obtaining an adequate staff of workmen. Yet another development in the German shipbuilding world is the extension of the Reichenberg Shipbuilding Yard and Engineering Works, of Hamburg, which is purchasing the adjoining shipbuilding yard of J. H. N. Wittenhorst. The latter firm, which has been in existence since 1834, will be dissolved. Finally the well-known Rickmers shipping and shipbuilding firm is to undergo considerable transformation, as the National Bank for Deutschland is to take over the majority of the shares which have been hitherto held by the Rickmers family. This seems to be an extension of the movement under which important German financial institutions are acquiring a large interest in shipping and shipbuilding concerns. Before the war the Rickmers shipbuilding yard built two or three ships per annum of about 8,000 tons each, for the use of the family company, but under the new arrangement it will endeavour to increase production and build for the general market. Incidentally, it may be mentioned that the Rickmers company has been very badly hit by the war. It was always a very independent concern, and a horn in the side of Herr Ballin, with whose policy of group negotiations and conferences it did not agree. For a long time it carried on a rate war against the East Asiatic Conference, which was formed by the Hamburg-American Line, and the result was only ended by the outbreak of the war, the time the

Rickmers company only had a few of its fleet of 18 vessels in German ports, and several of the others were captured or sunk. About a month ago it sold four of its cargo steamers—two of them to the German Levant Line, its former competitor in the Mediterranean trade and two to the Hamburg firm of Karl Wohlenberg. The very considerable expense of maintaining those of its ships lying in foreign ports, the payment of wages to the crews, and other outgoings have imposed a heavy financial burden on the company, and this no doubt has been one of the reasons for the transaction mentioned above.

## The Future Supply of Marine Engineers.

Where in the near future are marine engineers for the merchant service to come from? asks the Journal of Commerce. There appears to exist in certain circles a grave fear that if an actual shortage will not prevail, there certainly will be a dearth of adequately trained marine engineers. Professor Wemyss Anderson, of the Liverpool University, has already sounded a note of warning on the subject, and, there is much evidence to show that he is justified in doing so. It is, perhaps, somewhat difficult to tune one's thoughts to a matter of this character during these anxious and harassing days, but it appears to be very certain that the question will obtrude itself if we read aright the signs of the times. Encouragingly, our authority for the statement that the youth of the country are showing less inclination than ever to don the overall, with the result that recognised authorities are viewing the outlook with a good deal of perturbation. It is not for us to attempt to indicate how the situation may be saved, that we hope will be done presently; our immediate purpose will be served by calling the attention of shipowners to the danger which, no bigger than a man's hand now, is like to develop into spasmodic proportions. That Professor Anderson had good ground for focussing public opinion on the matter is clear from the fact that besides the efforts which the Liverpool Engineering Society is putting forward in the matter, the Institute of Marine Engineers is holding under review not only the question of the future supply of marine engineers, but also the qualifications of men to fill the higher and more responsible positions. When thought is given to the fact that a modern steamboat is a complex and complicated box of machinery it is obviously in the interests of the nation as a whole that everything should be done that can be done to bring into being an adequate supply of well-trained marine engineers, without whom our mercantile marine, the pride of the nation, will not be able to soar to the heights of which it is capable. The question does not concern merely educationists and technical societies, but it is equally vital to the shipowners, and we it take upon ourselves to suggest that the attention of the official and several organisations of the shipowners be drawn to the matter, with a view to common action being taken. We are all perfectly familiar with the methods which are being adopted by shipowners for the training of deck hands. Is it not possible that similar methods be pursued in regard to marine engineers? A joint national committee, representative of all the various interests, could surely bring about the results desired.

New Standard Oil Ship. The bulk-oil steamship Wm. G. Warder, which has been completed recently by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., Newport News, Va., for the Standard Oil Co., is the third of five similar vessels built and fitted for the same owners by the Newport News establishment. The preceding vessels of this type are the Charles Pratt and H. H. Rogers. These vessels are by far the largest tankers yet constructed in the United States, and are only slightly exceeded in size by a few tankers in the entire world. Some idea of their capacity may be obtained from the fact that each vessel has a tank capacity for over 5,000,000 gallons of cargo oil.

They are of the flush deck type, with a total length of 517 feet, a beam of 68 feet, a depth to shelter deck of 38 feet, and have a deadweight carrying capacity when loaded to a draft of slightly over 27 feet, of nearly 15,000 tons. In common with modern practice in tank ships, the propelling machinery is located aft, and as is now becoming quite customary, they are twin-screw vessels. Each vessel has ten main oil tanks divided by an oil-tight central bulkhead into two compartments each, thus making twenty compartments. In addition, there are on each side of the vessel in the wings between main and upper decks six summertanks so that there is a total of 32 oil compartments, the combined capacity of which makes up a grand total of 5,000,000 gallons. These tanks are connected to the several oil tanks by two lines of piping for each of the three subdivisions into which the cargo oil may be graded, and so connected that two kinds of oil may be loaded or discharged simultaneously. Valves are so fitted as to enable either pump to draw from any compartment and deliver into any of the other compartments, and so that either or both pumps can discharge separately to either or both sides of the vessel. Appliances are fitted for exhausting the oil vapour from the tanks, and steam coils are also fitted in the tanks for heating the oil when necessary to facilitate pumping. For lighting the vessel there are two generating sets of 20 k.w. each, and in addition, an emergency set. Steering gear, windlass, winches, &c., are all steam driven, and are all of high grade. A refrigerating plant with capacity of two tons of ice per day is provided for cooling ship's stores. Her official measurement is 10,239 tons gross register, and 7,890 tons net.

## The Oil-Engined Barge.

At different times it has been pointed out that the most suitable installation for the motor barge is the heavy type paraffin set or hot bulb motor. In almost every case engines of the said types have been fitted, and results have been satisfactory, a fact which is shown by the increasing number of motor propelled barges now employed on the Thames and Medway, as also on the principal English canals. Lately, however, there was put into service on the Medway a 120-ton carrying barge, in which the machinery took the form of a b.h.p. Sulzer Diesel. The engine being of low power is not directly reversible, but is coupled up to a reverse gear. The performances of the vessel, the Clinkham, will no doubt be watched with more than a passing interest, as the general opinion is that the pure Diesel engine of such low power is much too intricate to be run by the ordinary unskilled hand. There may be a slight saving in the fuel cost, but in the writer's opinion the difference is more than likely to be outweighed by the considerable increase of the annual repair bill. It is, indeed, difficult to see what benefit is to be derived by fitting a high compression motor of such low power in a commercial boat where simplicity and reliability are the points to be aimed at. The Diesel engine has its own field, and stands unchallenged for powers over 600 b.h.p. or 700 b.h.p., but the easily handled hot-bulb or paraffin set is undoubtedly the installation for the low powered small industrial boat.—Journal of Commerce.

## WHEN YOU REVIEW THE SITUATION



on the market for beer, of course you will settle on PRIMO because it has been tried, proved and endorsed by all lovers of wholesome beers. An ideal beverage for summer months.

Stocked by all Wine and Spirit Merchants and Hotels in the Colony.

H. RUTTONJEE

& SON.

16, Queen's Road Central.

## HONGKONG SHARE REPORT.

S.—SELLERS; SA.—SALES;  
B.—BUYERS; N.—NOMINAL

## OFFICIAL PRICES.

## BANKS.

|                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| H. K. & S. Banks s. | \$712½      |
| Cantons             | \$350       |
| North China         | 150         |
| Unions              | 870         |
| Yangtze             | ex 73 \$217 |

## FIRE INSURANCES.

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| China Fires b. | \$146 |
| H.K. Fires     | \$325 |

## SHIPPING.

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| Douglases     | 89½           |
| Steamboats    | 18            |
| Indos (Def.)  | b. x d. \$15½ |
| Indos (Pref.) | n. x d. \$40  |
| Shells        | 10½           |
| Ferries       | \$32          |

## REFINERIES.

|          |      |
|----------|------|
| Sugars   | 118  |
| Malabons | \$30 |

## MINING.

|         |      |
|---------|------|
| Kailans | 31½  |
| Lankata | 17½  |
| Raubis  | 2.70 |
| Troonhs | 27½  |
| Urals   | 5½   |

## DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, &amp;C.

|                  |       |
|------------------|-------|
| H. K. Wharves s. | \$9   |
| Kowloon Docks    | \$123 |
| Shai Docks       | t. 90 |

## LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Centrals      | 89    |
| H. K. Hotels  | \$100 |
| Land Invest.  | \$97½ |
| H'phreys Est. | \$625 |
| K'loon Lands  | \$33  |
| Shai Lands    | t. 80 |
| West Points   | \$77  |

## COTTON MILLS.

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Ewos          | t. 15½          |
| Kung Yiks     | t. 14½          |
| Shai Cottons  | b. & sa. t. 12½ |
| Yangtszeapoos | t. 5½           |

## MISCELLANEOUS.

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Borneos             | \$8        |
| China Light & P. n. | \$475      |
| Providents          | \$8        |
| Dairy Farms         | \$25       |
| Green Islands       | \$8        |
| H. K. Electrics     | \$49       |
| H. K. Ice Co.       | \$161      |
| Ropes               | \$384      |
| Steel Foundries     | \$10       |
| Trams, Low Level    | s. d. 6.70 |
| Trams, Peak, old    | \$8.80     |
| Trams, Peak, new    | \$1        |
| Laundries           | \$3.40     |
| U. Waterboats       | \$18       |
| Watsons             | \$6.35     |
| Wm. Powells         | \$6.60     |
| Morning Posts       | \$2.9      |

## CORRECTED TO NOON FRIDAY

"MAY 11, 1917.

## BENJAMIN &amp; POTTS,

Share and General Brokers.

Princes Building.

Tel. address: Broker.

## EXCHANGE.

## SELLING.

|        |         |
|--------|---------|
| NT     | 2/45½   |
| Demand | 2/41/16 |
| 30 d/s | 2/43½   |
| 60 d/s | 2/43½   |
| 4 m/s  | 2/41/16 |

## BUYING.

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| 4 m/s L/C       | 2/5 7/16  |
| 4 m/s D/P       | 2/5 9/16  |
| 6 m/s L/C       | 2/5 11/16 |
| 30 d/s Sydney & | 2/5 11/16 |
| Malbone         | 58        |
| isco & New York | 58        |

## AGENCIES.

|  |
| --- |
| CHINKIANG—Messrs. GEARING & CO., MANILA—Messrs. MACDONALD & CO., SINGAPORE—Messrs. BORNEO CO., LTD., GLASGOW—Messrs. A. E. BROWN, McARLANE & CO., LTD. |


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What Makes  
"WESTMINSTER SPECIALS"  
SO GOOD?

A trial reveals a refined flavour and delicate aroma such as none other can boast of.  
**Westminster**  
TURKISH SPECIALS.

From all Leading Tobacconists.



THEATRE ROYAL  
LAST NIGHTS AT 8.15. LAST NIGHTS OF  
**CHUNG**

**LING**

**SOO**

AND FULL VAUDEVILLE COMPANY.

TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!!

FRIDAY, MAY 11th.  
GRAND FASHIONABLE NIGHT!  
Special Entertainment Fund.

PRICES OF ADMISSION  
\$3, \$2 and \$1.  
PLAN AT MOUTRIE'S

HONGKONG CLUB.  
NOTICE.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the members of the Hongkong Club will be held in the Club House on MONDAY, the 14th May, 1917, at 5.15 P.M.

Business: As set forth in the Notice posted in the Hall of the Club.

By Order,

E. DES VŒUX,  
Secretary,  
Hongkong, 4th May, 1917.

THE ALEXANDRA CAFE.  
Just arrived. Fresh assortments of American Sweets & Fry's Chocolates.

"For the Blood is the Life."

**DO YOU SUFFER**

from any SKIN or BLOOD DISEASE such as Eczema, Scrofula, Bad Legs, Aliments, Ulcers, &c., of any kind. Whole Blood Potions, Elixirs, Gout, &c. &c. In fact, you can get below the surface of the skin. What you want is to get above the surface of the blood. This is the blood of the potencies matter which above is the true cause of all your suffering. There is no other way to get rid of it. It is composed of ingredients which are extracted from the blood of animals from whatever cause they have suffered, & there can be no harm in taking them.

Clarke's  
Blood  
Mixture

A Stoic Census.  
In order to cope with the short-  
age of shoes, the Imperial  
Clothing Department has ordered  
a census of all shoes in Germany,  
excepting those in use and those  
kept in reserve. Working, walk-  
ing, riding, sporting, evening  
shoes, pumps, sandals, and  
all small articles reported.

Patented  
Remedies  
to take  
of all  
diseases.

Before substituting.

WILL CURE YOU  
PERMANENTLY.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

**GEO. P. LAMMERT.**  
AUCTIONEER & GENERAL  
BROKER.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

SATURDAY the 12th May, 1917,

commencing at 10.30 a.m. at No. 7 Macdonnell Road,

A Quantity of Valuable Household Furniture etc., etc., etc.

Also A few pieces of Choice Canton Blackwood-ware.

On view from Noon, Friday, the 11th inst.

Catalogues will be issued.

Terms—Cash

GEO. P. LAMMERT.

Auctioneer.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

TUESDAY the 15th May, 1917,

commencing at 11 a.m. at No. 44 Nathan Road;

(1st floor), Kowloon.

A Quantity of Valuable Teak-wood Household Furniture

Also

1 Victrola with Records.

4 Tea Sectional Bookcases.

On view from Monday, the 14th inst.

Catalogues will be issued.

Terms—Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT,

Auctioneer.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the Liquidators of Messrs. Jebsen & Co. in pursuance of an order of the Hongkong Government to sell by public auction at 12 o'clock (NOON) on TUESDAY the 31st day of July, 1917, at his sales rooms, Duddell Street,

THE VALUABLE LEASE-HOLD PROPERTY situated at The Peak, Hongkong and being Rural Building Lot No. 19.

In One Lot.

The property consists of—

The piece or parcel of ground and premises known as "Lyskolt," 104 The Peak, situated near Mount Gough in the Colony of Hongkong with an area of 124,032 square feet and registered in the Land Offices as Rural Building Lot No. 19.

The lot is held for the unexpired residue of a term of 75 years created therein by an indenture of Crown Lease dated the 23rd day of April, 1896.

The Annual Crown Rent is £85.00.

The further particulars and conditions of sale apply to Messrs. Wilkinson & Gritt, Solicitors for the Liquidators or to the undersigned.

GEO. P. LAMMERT.

Auctioneer.

FOR SALE.

MOTOR CARS, MOTOR CARS  
1917 Overland Touring Cars,  
6 Cylinder, 7 Seats.

GEO. P. LAMMERT,  
Duddell Street,  
Hongkong, 15th February, 1917.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on WEDNESDAY, the 16th May, 1917,

commencing at 11 a.m. at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street.

A Large Quantity of WINES & LIQUORS as follows:

25 cases Guinness' Stout (qts & pts.)

30 cases Rott. Porter's Lager Beer (qts. & pts.)

167 cases Z.H.B. Dutch Beer (qts. & pts.)

10 cases V. V. Vermouth.

15 " Claret—Medoc.

10 " Chablis—Mouton Rothschild.

5 cas Burgundy—Beaune.

10 do Sauterne—Chablis Yquem.

30 do California Wines.

24 cases Junora Wine.

On view from Saturday, the 12th inst.

Terms—Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT,

Auctioneer.

ASAHI BEER.



BOTTLED IN  
ASAHI BEER  
ASAHI BREWERY COMPANY LIMITED TOKYO

POST OFFICE.

IMPORT PROHIBITIONS.

The public are informed that the undeclared articles are prohibited from importation into the United Kingdom, either by letter post or by parcel post.

Gold manufactured or unmanufactured, including gold coins and articles consisting partly or containing gold; All manufacturers of Silver other than silver watches and silver watch cases; Jewellery of any description.

Letters and Parcels containing such articles cannot therefore be accepted for transmission by the Post Office.

FRENCH PARCEL REGULATIONS.

The Public are informed that the new regulations adopted by the French Customs insist that senders of parcels addressed to France, Corsica and Algeria must fill in the columns of the regular Customs Declaration particularly and exactly, omitting none of the headings comprised therein.

It is furthermore absolutely necessary to show in the aforesaid declaration (1) The full name and address of the addressee (2) A statement as to whether the contents are intended for State supplies or not.

Particulars of outgoing and incoming Mails will not be advertised in future. The Post Office will forward all correspondence posted by the fastest routes.

Correspondence addressed to enemy subjects in China, Siam, Siberia and Portuguese East Africa, Persia and Morocco cannot be transmitted.

The Services to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

Unclaimed parcels for the United Kingdom will in future be forwarded from Hongkong via Siberia to London on March 15th 1917 and to London on March 15th and 16th 1917 a/c presumed lost.

LOCAL AND REGULAR MAILED OUTWARD.

Tai O.—Week days, 5 p.m.  
Tolo—Week days, 10 a.m.; Sundays, 2.30 p.m.

Cheung Chow—Week days, 2 p.m.

Shatin, Sha Tin and Saeung Shui—Week days, 4 p.m.

Aberdeen, Ant-n, Ping Shan, Sai Kung, Santa and Stanley—Week days, 4.30 p.m.

Canton, Samshui and Wuchow—Week days, 7.30 a.m., Registration 5 p.m., Letters 6 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m.

Macao—Week days, 7.15 a.m., 1.30 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.

Kongmoon—Week days, 6 p.m. Except Saturdays; Sundays, 5 p.m.

Namtu and Sammel—Week days, 5 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m.

Shamchun—Week days, 10 a.m., 4 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.

Tai Po—Week days, 10 a.m.; Sundays, 2.30 a.m.

Chung Ho—Week days, 2 p.m.

Shau Kei Wan—Week days, 2 p.m.

Stanley—Week days, 2 p.m.

High Junk Bay—Week days, 2 p.m.

Low Junk Bay—Week days, 2 p.m.

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